

Plebejus idas* (Northern Blue)*Priority 2 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)****Class:** *Insecta* (Insects)**Order:** *Lepidoptera* (Butterflies, Skippers, And Moths)**Family:** *Lycaenidae* (Gossamer-winged Butterflies)**General comments:**

a previously overlooked native subspecies; only 1 EO in extreme northwest Maine; rare boreal habitat; few additional populations expected

Species Conservation Range Maps for Northern Blue:Town Map: [Plebejus idas Towns.pdf](#)Subwatershed Map: [Plebejus idas HUC12.pdf](#)**SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:****Risk of Extirpation:** NA**State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern:***Plebejus idas* is listed as a species of Special Concern in Maine.**Recent Significant Declines:** NA**Regional Endemic:** NA**High Regional Conservation Priority:** NA**High Climate Change Vulnerability:**

Vulnerability: 3, Confidence: Medium, Reviewers: Decided in Workshop (W)

Understudied rare taxa:

Recently documented or poorly surveyed rare species for which risk of extirpation is potentially high (e.g. few known occurrences) but insufficient data exist to conclusively assess distribution and status. *criteria only qualifies for Priority 3 level SGCN*

Notes: a previously overlooked native subspecies; only 1 EO in extreme northwest Maine; rare boreal habitat; few additional populations expected

Historical: NA**Culturally Significant:** NA**Habitats Assigned to Northern Blue:****Formation Name** Boreal Upland Forest**Macrogroup Name** Boreal Upland Forest

Habitat System Name: Acadian Low Elevation Spruce-Fir-Hardwood Forest ****Primary Habitat**** **Notes:** dry upland black spruce woodlands where host plants (Dwarf Billberry, Labrador Tea, Sheep Laurel) present

Stressors Assigned to Northern Blue:

Stressor Priority Level based on Severity and Actionability		Moderate Severity	High Severity
	Highly Actionable	Medium-High	High
	Moderately Actionable	Medium	Medium-High
	Actionable with Difficulty	Low	Low

IUCN Level 1 Threat**Other Options****IUCN Level 2 Threat:** Lack of knowledge**Severity:** Moderate Severity**Actionability:** Highly actionable**Notes:** Lack of comprehensive survey effort to identify additional occurrences and determine species status

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**Only species specific conservation actions that address high (red) or medium-high (orange) priority stressors are summarized here.*

Conservation Action**Category:** Research**Biological Priority:** high**Type:** new

Prepare a statewide atlas and conservation assessment.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action**Category:** Species Management**Biological Priority:** critical**Type:** new

Prepare occurrence maps and pesticide spray consultation guidelines for rare Lepidoptera and distribute to strategic partners including Maine Bureau of Pesticides Control.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Agricultural and Forestry Effluents

Guild Level Conservation Actions:

This Species is currently not attributed to a guild.

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.